Comprehensive Educational Policy

2429. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after declaring India as a democratic country for more than 56 years, we have not been able to formulate any comprehensive educational policy;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to constitute 'National Commission on Education' to sort out the prevailing unrest and difficulties being faced by the student community all over the country;

(c) if so, the details of terms and conditions of such a Commission; and

(d) the time by when it would be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir. The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 (as modified in 1992), which was based on an in-depth review of the entire education sector and formulated on the basis of a national consensus, enunciates a comprehensive framework to guide the development of education in the country in its entirety. The NPE continues to be of relevance.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Foreign educational institutions in higher education

2430. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of an offer of the Commerce Ministry made to World Trade Organisation (WTO) to allow foreign educational institutions in the country to provide higher education; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and his Ministry's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The position with regard to the offer under higher education services is as under:-

Education Services	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment
Higher Education Services		
	(1) None subject to the condition that service providers woule be subject to regulations, as applicable to domestic providers in the country of origin.	(1) None
	(2) None	(2) None
	(3) None, subject to the condition that fees to be charged can be fixed by an appropriate authoroity and that such fees do not lead to charging capitation fees or to profiteering. Subject further to such regulations, already in place or to be prescribed by the appropriate regulatory authority. In the case of foreign investors having prior collaboration in that specific service sector in India, FIPB approval would be required.	(3) None
	(4) Unbound except as in the horizontal section	(4) Unbound except as in the horizontal section

Modes of supply of services: (1) Cross-border supply; (2) Consumption abroad; (3) Commercial Presence; (4) Movement of Natural persons.

The negotiations have not concluded as yet. These offers can be modified or withdrawn at any time during the negotiations.

The Government has been against any haste in opening the education sector to foreign participation under a multilateral regime without adequate

safeguards and also would not like tolet the education sector be used as a bargaining chip in obtaining any gains in other sectors.

The role of the education sector in developing human resources to promote and sustain rapid economic and social growth cannot be over emphasized. It has been the considered view of the Government that India should retain all the options in the education sector to be exercised at a time most suitable in national interest.

Autonomy to Institutes in OBC reservation

2431. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that the Central educational institutions, like I.I.Ts and I.I.Ms, should be allowed autonomy in implementing their time--table for roll-out OBC quota and a matching 54 per cent increase in general category seats; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and a resume of the views received from these Central Government educational institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No such decision has been taken by the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Double shift Colleges affiliated to D.U.

2432. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi University proposes to start double shifts in colleges to meet with the additional seats in the colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the action plan of Government to ensure that the quality of education is not affected as a result thereof?